

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 6, 2015
AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 26, 2015
CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2015–16 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 427

Introduced by Assembly Member Weber

February 19, 2015

An act to add Section 8209.5 to the Education Code, relating to early childhood education.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 427, as amended, Weber. Early primary programs: child care services: eligibility: military families.

The Child Care and Development Services Act has a purpose of providing a comprehensive, coordinated, and cost-effective system of child care and development services for children from infancy to 13 years of age and their parents, including a full range of supervision, health, and support services through full- and part-time programs.

This bill would exclude from income the amount of the basic allowance for housing provided to an individual who is on federal active duty, state active duty, active duty for special work, or Active Guard and Reserve duty in the military that is equal to the lowest rate of the allowance for the military housing area in which the individual resides for purposes of determining eligibility for child care and development services.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. (a) The Legislature finds and declares all of the
2 following:

3 (1) California is home to a large number of military personnel,
4 including 150,000 active duty personnel.

5 (2) Military families are a unique population with unique
6 circumstances. The children of military families face constant
7 transition, including family mobility and parental deployment.

8 (3) Military families move more than twice as often as civilian
9 families. Forty percent of officers and 60 percent of enlisted
10 personnel move during the school year. Thus, the lower the rank
11 of the military family member, the more often the family moves.

12 (4) During a time of war, military families endure the strains of
13 long-term separation as one or both parents may be deployed
14 overseas.

15 (5) During parental deployment children are often anxious,
16 stressed, and confused. Child care providers and preschools can
17 be places where stability and routine can provide security. The
18 routine helps to cushion the impact of parental deployment.

19 (6) Early education can be a determining factor in the early
20 academic success of a pupil from a military family by providing
21 educational enrichment, as well as a stable and nurturing learning
22 environment.

23 (b) Given these special circumstances, it is the intent of the
24 Legislature in enacting this act to ensure that military families have
25 access to the child care development services that their children
26 need.

27 SEC. 2. Section 8209.5 is added to the Education Code, to
28 read:

29 8209.5. (a) For purposes of determining eligibility for services
30 offered pursuant to this chapter, the income of an individual who
31 is on federal active duty, state active duty, active duty for special
32 work, or Active Guard and Reserve duty in the military shall not
33 include the amount of the basic allowance for housing pursuant to
34 Section 403 of Title 37 of the United States Code provided to the
35 individual that is equal to the lowest rate of the allowance for the
36 military housing area in which the individual resides.

1 ***(b) This section does not affect the priorities for federal and***
2 ***state subsidized child development services established pursuant***
3 ***to subdivision (b) of Section 8263.***

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